

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT to the TRUSTEES of HAWICK DEVELOPMENT TRUST

Scottish Charity Number SC039141

I report on the Accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on the attached pages.

## Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investments (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the Accounts as required under Section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the Accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the Accounts, and seeks explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the Accounts.

## Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

i) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and

ii) to prepare Accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the Accounts to be reached.

Signed

Date

31/10/25



## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the period 01.04.24 to 31.03.25

Registration: Hawick Development Trust (formerly Future Hawick) is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered as such with OSCR effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. The name change was approved by OSCR effective from 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The registration number is SC039141.

Memberships: The Trust has memberships of Development Trusts Association Scotland, South of Scotland Destination Alliance, Scotland's Towns Partnership, and Borders Community Action.

Members: Membership of the Group currently stands at 168 individual members and 6 group members.

Governance: Hawick Development Trust is governed by its Constitution and its Policies (Equal Opportunities, Environment, Financial Management, Data Protection, Trustee Recruitment, Trustee Code of Conduct, Conflict of Interest, Health & Safety, and Volunteering). An effective Board of Charity Trustees is recruited through local media advertising and awareness promotion (unfair discrimination in selection is not employed). Management meetings are held on a monthly basis with subgroup meetings under the chairmanship of a trustee being held as required with reports to the Board.

Objectives: Hawick Development Trust is a non-profit making, distributing, voluntary organisation which seeks to improve the well-being, quality of life, and opportunities of the people of Hawick and its environs by bringing together local community and voluntary organisations to work with public agencies to enhance the town's social, cultural, recreational, and educational facilities, together with its environment and economy. To help these objectives Hawick Development Trust provides a resource centre for administration, information support, equipment hire, and meetings and is involved in local regeneration works and projects.





Main Activities for 2024/25: The year has been one of transition as far as completed and new projects are concerned with primary efforts concentrated as follows:-

1. Tourism:

- The Hawick Welcome strategy is insufficient to sustain tourism development within the town and surrounding area. Meetings have been held with tourism consultants and area tourism bodies to enable a comprehensive strategy to be developed with options currently being the subject of further investigation.
- The Trust has representation on the dedicated group set up to manage the redevelopment of St Leonard's Park.

2. Digital:

- The Trust is in the process of overhauling and improving the Hawick Online website and associated social media outlets to better suit the needs of the town. A dedicated Hawick Development Trust website is also currently under investigation.

3. Environment:

- The Trust continues to develop and press Scottish Borders Council for involvement in its project to improve street cleaning services in the central area of the town. Work to trial areas has proven very successful and social enterprises capable of carrying out the works have been identified.
- The "Teri Bikes" project to promote e-cycling on and beyond the town's active travel network has now been fully established and is being managed and operated by a separate dedicated group.

4. Fabric:

- With the condition of unoccupied and derelict buildings particularly in the central area of the town, the group has been prominent in plans to bring some buildings back into use. The Trust has met with other interested parties and sought funding for and commissioned structural and condition surveys on properties while also investigating possible uses. Some properties in which the Trust showed an interest have been sold to private individuals or listed for demolition but the group is currently in negotiation to purchase a High Street property which will allow a retailer to continue in business and avoid staff redundancies.



5. Place Planning:

- The Trust continues to play a prominent role in the team which has developed a place plan for Hawick in conjunction with Scottish Borders Council and South of Scotland Enterprise.

6. General:

- The Trust continues to meet with national and local politicians, councillors community councils, and other public bodies to discuss local issues.
- The Trust provides meeting and seminar facilities for community groups and businesses.

4 The Trustees Report and Annual Accounts were approved at the Annual General Meeting of Hawick Development Trust held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025



Chairman



**HAWICK DEVELOPMENT TRUST (Formerly Future Hawick)**

Charity No. SC039141

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024/25	Total 2023/24
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Membership Income	£ 250		£ 250	£ 250
General Income	£ 3,191		£ 3,191	£ 20
Bank Interest	£ 229		£ 229	£ 302
SBC Regeneration Grants:				
Hawick Welcome:				
Donations		£ -	£ -	£ -
Grants		£ -	£ -	£ 4,219
Brochure Advertisements		£ 5,705	£ 5,705	£ 7,412
Community Initiatives		£ -	£ -	£ -
Teri Bikes		£ 3,488	£ 3,488	£ 52,152
STP Recovery Project (inc website)		£ -	£ -	£ -
Rewilding Project		£ -	£ -	£ -
Town Team Admin:				
Donations		£ 700	£ 700	£ 3,500
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£ 3,670</b>	<b>£ 9,893</b>	<b>£ 13,563</b>	<b>£ 67,855</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Hawick Welcome		£ 6,373	£ 6,373	£ 16,202
Community Initiatives		£ -	£ -	£ 43
STP Recovery Project (inc website)		£ 2,402	£ 2,402	£ 1,320
Rewilding Project		£ -	£ -	£ 1,020
Teri Bikes		£ 18,046	£ 18,046	£ 37,593
Town Team Admin		£ 1,420	£ 1,420	£ 500
Street Cleaning	£ 1,416		£ 1,416	£ -
80 High Street	£ 900		£ 900	£ -
Sundries:				
Membership Subscriptions	£ 90		£ 90	£ 209
Electricity	£ 1,092		£ 1,092	£ 669
Insurance	£ 415		£ 415	£ 411
Secretarial/Seminar	£ 40		£ 40	£ 519
Sundries:	£ 256		£ 256	£ 275
			£ -	
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£ 4,209</b>	<b>£ 28,241</b>	<b>£ 32,450</b>	<b>£ 58,761</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>	<b>-£ 539</b>	<b>-£ 18,348</b>	<b>-£ 18,887</b>	<b>£ 9,094</b>



	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2024/25	Total 2023/24
<b>STATEMENT OF BALANCES as at 31st MARCH 2025</b>				
Bank balance brought forward	£ 1,737	£ 22,191	£ 23,928	£ 14,834
Movement in Year	-£ 539	-£ 18,348	-£ 18,887	£ 9,094
Bank balance carried forward	£ 1,198	£ 3,843	£ 5,041	£ 23,928

## MOVEMENT OF FUNDS

	At 01/04/24	Receipts	Payments	At 31/03/25
Unrestricted Funds	£ 1,737	£ 3,670	£ 4,209	£ 1,198
Restricted Funds:				
Hawick Welcome	£ 5	£ 5,705	£ 6,373	-£ 663
Community Initiatives	£ 371	£ -	£ -	£ 371
STP Recovery Project	£ 3,532	£ -	£ 2,402	£ 1,130
Rewilding Project	£ 724	£ -	£ -	£ 724
Teri Bikes	£ 14,559	£ 3,488	£ 18,046	£ 1
Town Team Admin	£ 3,000	£ 700	£ 1,420	£ 2,280
			£ -	
	£ 22,191	£ 9,893	£ 28,241	£ 3,843
			£ -	
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	£ 23,928	£ 13,563	£ 32,450	£ 5,041

## NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

### 1. Trustees & Related Parties Transactions

- No Trustee or person connected to a Trustee received any remuneration
- No Trustee received any expenses
- There were no transactions between the Charity and any Trustee or person connected to a Trustee

### 2. Purpose of Restricted Funds

- Hawick Welcome: A tourism initiative funded by grants and fundraising initiatives to employ Hosts over the summer months to welcome visitors to the town and provide information in respect of attractions, retail outlets, hotels, and restaurants.
- Community Initiatives: Originally a grant from SBC for a pilot scheme to employ a consultant but changed due to a change of council policy. Now a fund which has enabled the group to implement new and supplement existing initiatives in line with the conditions of the award.
- Rewilding Project: A project initiated to create wild meadow appearances on derelict areas of ground within the town.
- Teri Bikes: A project initiated to promote cycling and tourism within the town and its environs through the hire of e-bikes.
- Town Team Admin: A project set up to involve community groups and organisations in coming together to develop a place making strategy for the town.